having at least one primary alphanumeric symbol associated therewith and at least one of said first keys having a set of secondary alphanumeric symbol associated therewith;

(b) actuating a first key having an associated said set of secondary symbols; and

(c) displaying said set of said secondary alphanumeric characters of said actuated first key in association with said second keys.

21. The method of claim 20, further comprising selecting said primary alphanumeric symbol associated with said actuated first key.

22. The method of claim 20, further comprising selecting one of said set of secondary alphanumeric symbols of said actuated first key by actuating a corresponding one of said second keys.

23. The method of claim 22, further comprising displaying said selected secondary alphanumeric symbols in a display field.

24. A method for data entry and display, comprising:

(a) providing a keypad including a plurality of primary keys and a plurality of secondary keys, each said primary key having a first alphanumeric character associated therewith and at least one of said primary keys having a set of second alphanumeric characters associated therewith;

(b) actuating said primary key having an associated said set of secondary alphanumeric symbols; and

(c) displaying said set of said second alphanumeric characters of said actuated primary key in association with said secondary keys.

25. The method of claim 24, further comprising selecting one of said alphanumeric characters associated with said actuated primary key.

26. The method of claim 24, wherein said selecting further comprises actuating one of said secondary keys.

27. The method of claim 24, wherein said display of said selected set of said second alphanumeric characters comprises displaying one said second alphanumeric character from said set on a corresponding one of said secondary keys.

28. The method of claim 24, comprising:

(a) entering a plurality of alphanumeric characters on said keypad to form a character string; and

(b) processing data associated with said character string and entering said data into a memory.

29. The method of claim 28, further comprising transferring said data from said memory to a cyclic redundancy check circuit as a data stream using a direct memory access controller.

30. The method of claim 29, further comprising calculating a cyclic redundancy check value for said data stream by said cyclic redundancy check circuit.

31. The method of claim 29, wherein said transferring said data comprises:

(a) seeding, by software, of said cyclic redundancy check circuit with a selected initial value;

(b) setting up said direct memory access controller, by said software, with a source address for said data stream, a destination address for said data stream, and a size for said data stream;

(c) initiating, by said software, transfer of said data stream by said direct memory access controller to said cyclic redundancy check circuit; and

(d) transferring each byte in said data stream to said cyclic redundancy check circuit by said direct memory access controller.

32. The method of claim 28, further comprising transferring display data as a display data stream from said memory to a display controller using a direct memory access controller.

33. The method of claim 32, wherein said transferring said display data comprises:

(a) setting up said display controller, by software, with a display address for said display data stream;

(b) setting up said direct memory access controller, by said software, with a source address for said display data stream, a destination address for said display data stream, and a size for said display data stream; and

(c) initiating transfer, by said software of said display data stream by said direct memory access controller to said display controller.

34. The method of claim 28, wherein said data stream represents data corresponding to a user-entered identification character string, and said cyclic redundancy check value comprises an identification cyclic redundancy check value.

35. The method of claim 34, further comprising creating a list of authorized cyclic redundancy check values and storing said list of authorized cyclic redundancy check values in said memory.

36. The method of claim 35, further comprising:

(a) comparing said identification cyclic redundancy check value to said stored list of authorized cyclic redundancy check values; and

(b) determining authorization for said identification cyclic redundancy check value.

37. A method for data entry and display, comprising:

(a) providing a keypad including a plurality of hard keys and a plurality of soft keys, each said hard key having a primary alphanumeric symbol and a set of secondary alphanumeric symbols associated therewith;

(b) actuating a first said hard key; and

(c) displaying a first said set of said secondary alphanumeric symbols from said actuated first said hard key in association with said soft keys.

38. The method of claim 37, further comprising selecting one of said alphanumeric symbols associated with said actuated first said hard key.

39. The method of claim 37, wherein said selecting comprises:

(a) actuating a selected one of said soft keys to select one of said first set of secondary alphanumeric symbols; and

(b) displaying said selected one of said first set of secondary alphanumeric symbols on a display field.

40. The method of claim 39, further comprising

(b) actuating a second said hard key; and